



June, 1997

Volume XXVIII, No. 5

FREE

## Esprit Park Land, Trees: Fundraising "Sale" Set

By Vas Arnautoff

Billed as "an old fashioned neighborhood picnic," the fundraiser scheduled for Sunday, June 22, at Esprit Park promises to be a festive affair with music, food and drink.

Organized by Friends of Esprit Park, a group formed nine months ago when it became clear that the existence of the urban oasis was in jeopardy, the picnic will offer pieces of the park "for sale."

The symbolic offerings range from square foot segments of lawn for \$10 to redwood trees for \$250. Other trees will go for \$25 to \$100, with the proviso that any tree containing a bird's nest is subject to a \$50 surcharge. "Deeds" will be presented to "purchasers."

Food and drink will really be for sale, supplied by the Sandwich Shop, 635-19th St., and Anchor Steam Beer, and a local musical group will add to the festivities. In addition, signed commemorative posters by renowned illustrator and Potrero Hill resident Ward Schumaker will be on sale.

(Continued on Page 10)



Assemblywoman Carole Migden (center) proudly shows the poster awarded to her by Friends of Esprit Park in recognition for her efforts to try to win state legislative funding to help purchase the park.  
Vos Arnautoff photo

## Public Housing Activists Armstrong, Nichols Picked for Management Training with Housing Authority

By Lysa Allman

Appointed as Acting Executive Director of the San Francisco Housing Authority last November, Ron Davis has been establishing a series of changes within the department. One is the implementation of an 18-month training program in which public housing residents are given the opportunity to become a part of the governing process in their communities.

In February, at the SFHA's Potrero Hill Apartments, located between Wisconsin and Texas, 23rd and 25th Streets, on the south side of Potrero Hill, Joyce Armstrong and Waymond Nichols were hired as Resident Property Management trainees. Chosen because of their activism in the community — Armstrong having had a long-term relationship with the Potrero Hill Neighborhood House, and Nichols a local business owner — it was felt they could promote community representation. "We were very vocal in the community (and) were trying to do things for residents that we felt were best," said Nichols.

The program, which runs for 18 months, prepares the trainees to become property managers. They then can apply for positions within or outside of the Housing Authority. As residents, and with their new skills, Armstrong and Nichols will be able to educate others on matters such as rental procedures, adherence to rules and regulations, and the eviction process.

"We thought it was a good decision because it informs residents of a lot of things they did not know, (and) gives us a voice and opportunity to be part of the decision-making in how public housing is run, so that we are treated fairly," Nichols explained.

The Potrero Hill Apartments consist of some 37 buildings with close to 2,000 residents. Although one section is called the Annex and another the Terrace, it is all one apartment complex. Pursuant to total household income,

rents range anywhere from \$25-\$400 per month. Residents who were getting AFDC but have secured jobs are permitted six months of adjustment before their rent is raised. Nichols notes that some people say, "I don't want to get a job; they'll raise my rent," and adds, "Well, sure, you have to pay your fair share, but at the same time they give you six months to try to do something with that money that you haven't been able to do."

In the neighborhood, there is a great deal of modernization in process: sewer lines are under repair and improvement; buildings are being painted in handsome colors; and several units already have new bathroom fixtures and tiles. And the majority of the work is performed by the residents themselves. Nichols beamed, "If I am out there every day fixing up the buildings, then maybe if somebody came by and did something to them, I know that I did that work and I can tell them, 'No, don't do that!'"

In his opinion, "You begin to get an investment and an ownership, and that's something that Davis began to see that nobody else has been able to see throughout the years that public housing has been here."

Nichols and Armstrong hope the success of the project will dispel many of the stereotypes attributed to public housing — that the majority of its residents are unemployed, and that most people who move into public housing will never move out. The news media often depicts public housing as crime-ridden and dangerous. Both trainees disagree, claiming they have no more crime than anywhere else. Armstrong explained, "You can't expect us to police the community when the people we pay don't want to do it." And, Nichols interjected, "it would be different, if the police were constantly here -- it worked in Virginia — the police knew everybody, and everybody knew them."

(Continued on Page 5)

**In Our View: June 3 Propositions**  
PAGE TWO

**Troubled Club's Permit Revoked**  
PAGE FOUR

**Lead Found at School Fountain**  
PAGE FIVE

**Development Plans on Display**  
PAGE SIX

GETTING INVOLVED

**ROSES (Residents of the Southeast Sector)** meets the first Thursday of each month (June 5) with members of the San Francisco Police Department, to discuss issues of public concern. Meetings take place at 7 p.m. in the Community College — downstairs — at 1800 Oakdale at Phelps, off Bayshore. The topic for June will be "Agencies Working toward Quality of Life Issues." Guest speakers include: Melvin Baker of DPW's Street Environmental Services; Lavonne Barnes from the Office of the Mayor; Bevan Duffy of the Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Services; Sara Mogel from Friends of the Urban Forest; Mohammed Nurn of S.F. League of Urban Gardeners; Joel Robinson of Recreation & Parks Department; Claude Wilson of the Southeast Alliance for Environmental Justice; and representatives from PG&E. Refreshments after the Forum provided by ROSES.

**Potrero Hill Health Center Advisory Board** meets the second Monday of the month (June 9) from 6-7 p.m. Meetings, held at the Center at 1050 Wisconsin St. are open to the public. Additional meetings are planned for Tuesdays during June and July in preparation for the Giant-sized July Festival/Fair/Carnival for Jobs & Health. Phone the clinic at 648-3022 for specific dates. Or find out at the June 9 meeting, above.

**Potrero Hill Democratic Club** meets the second Tuesday of each month (June 10). The meetings start at 7:00 p.m. at the Potrero Hill Neighborhood House, 953 De Haro.

**Starr King Park Board of Directors** meets on the second Wednesday (June 11) from 7-9 p.m. in the Potrero Hill Library meeting room, 1616-20th St. All meetings are open to the public. The Board advises that there still remains one seat on the board yet to be filled. Write the Park Board, 1459-18th St., #108, S.F. 94107. Also, the date of the Sat. a.m. work party is changed to the 2nd Sat., June 14; top of Carolina Street, 10:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.

**PLAN (Potrero League of Active Neighbors)** meets the third Wednesday of each month (June 18). Although this month's meeting is of the Executive Committee, anyone wishing to raise a matter may phone 826-6359 for a time and place. The next regular public meeting will be on July 16.

**Potrero Hill Boosters and Merchants** meet the last Tuesday of the month (June 24) at 7:30 p.m. in the Potrero Hill Library, 1616-20th St.

YES ON 'A', 'B', AND 'C'

Schools, Cultural Centers, Zoo Deserve Bond Support

We urge a "yes" vote on Props. A, B and C on June 3rd. Although none of the three measures is without controversy, we believe that all of them will help ensure repairs, seismic upgrades and necessary expansion for some of the city's very important facilities.

Questions about how School Superintendent Bill Rojas and members of the Board of Education have allocated repair funds in the past do not negate the stark reality of schools badly in need of maintenance, seismic upgrades and other safety measures. These would be provided through Prop. A.

And although many of us on *The View* are concerned about the city's growing cultural fragmentation and the proliferation of identity politics, we also recognize the valuable contribution that many of the city's cultural centers make to their neighborhoods (For an example, see story on Page 6 about the session at the South of Market Cultural Center.) With many artists losing space as live/work units soar in price, these centers are a crucial component in keeping community-based art in San Francisco, and Prop. B will help ensure their continuance and growth.

And although we share concerns about the administration of the San Francisco Zoo under the newly-privatized arrangement with the San Francisco Zoological Society, the fact remains that many of the animals are currently kept in confining cages and small enclosures. We believe that the zoo and its animals deserve the more natural habitat that will be constructed if Prop. C passes.

We urge "yes" votes on Props. A, B and C.



IN OUR VIEW  
ELECTION RECOMMENDATIONS

PROP. A	School & Community College Bonds .....	YES
PROP. B	Cultural Center Bonds .....	YES
PROP. C	Zoo Bonds.....	YES
PROP. D	Stadium Bonds .....	NO
PROP. E	PUC Changes.....	N/R
PROP. F	Candlestick Land Use.....	NO
(N/R=No Recommendation)		

NO ON 'D' AND 'F'

No Information, Protection Lead to No Confidence

The staff of *The Potrero View* urges our readers to vote "no" on Props. D and F June 3. We urge you to consider the following points before you vote.

- \* Supporters of both the stadium and related mega-mall have presented voters with woefully incomplete information. We are being asked to make major decisions without any sort of lease agreement or development agreement.
- \* There have been no environmental or traffic studies, and Prop. F, the land use measure, would exempt the development from current provisions for citizen involvement at various stages of the project.
- \* Although many supporters raise the promise of jobs for residents of Bayview-Hunters Point, there is no legally binding guarantee of those jobs either in construction or after the mall is built. And studies of other Mills mega-malls indicate that predictions of 10,000 permanent jobs are - to be charitable - vastly overoptimistic. Philadelphia's Franklin Mills, for example, with a larger area, has just a fraction of that number, and the vast majority pay little more than minimum wage, with no benefits.
- \* From the beginning, efforts in support of Props. D and F have been characterized by an atmosphere of bullying and namecalling - sapping ever further our confidence in future citizen participation in this effort by residents of Bayview-Hunters Point and the entire city - and whether promises made now will be carried out after Election Day.

We agree that the 11th hour agreement about a future policy insuring the city's general fund against bond liability (only an agreement, by the way, not a policy) brings one element of comfort to the issue. But we also wonder if such an insurance agreement would even have been considered had the polls not shown the stadium trailing badly.

'49ers owner Eddie DeBartolo is a multi-millionaire, and the 49ers are an immensely profitable team. We believe he can easily afford to build a new stadium for the team, with private funds, as the Giants are going to do. Instead, he wants us to let him gamble with the house's money - in response to his "take it or leave it" threats.

We believe that economic development in the Bayview-Hunters Point area is indeed a good idea. And if it is a good idea, it should be done right - with adequate information, genuine job guarantees, and full provisions for citizen participation that will protect the economic and environmental rights of the people in that neighborhood and throughout the city.

Props. D and F offer neither information nor protection. Tell them to get it right — vote "no."



Masthead design by Giacomo Patri

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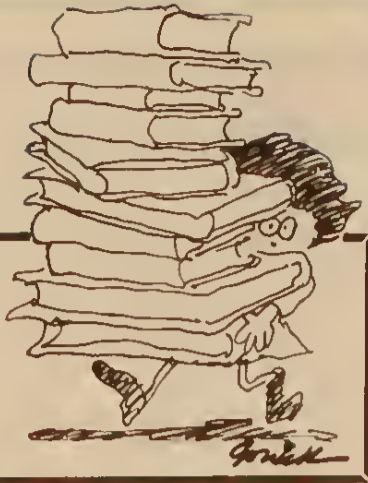
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## LIBRARY NEWS POTRERO BRANCH 1616 20th St. • 695-6640

### Closed Monday

Tuesday: 10 am - 9 pm  
Wednesday: 1 pm - 9 pm  
Thursday: 10 am - 6 pm  
Friday: 1 pm - 6 pm  
Saturday: Noon - 6 pm



### POTRERO SPARKLES IN PATRON SURVEY

Here are some of the comments on the performance of the Potrero Branch culled from a recent "Satisfaction Survey": "I like the plants, origami, art" ... "Very nice and helpful staff" ... "Wonderful to have a branch library" ... "I find everyone very helpful" ... "Great job!" ... "Service and facilities excellent, but library is too small" ... "Pleasant atmosphere. Everyone is always nice and helpful." ... "I especially like the children's activities organized by the library staff." ... "Thanks—I love the library" ... "Thank God for the quiet and restful atmosphere in the Potrero Hill Branch! Desert travelers must feel something like what I feel when they come upon an oasis!" ...

Also: "Great staff!" ... "We always appreciate the assistance we get from the staff at the Potrero Library and the newly extended library hours. Thank you." ... "Looking for books, found good ones." ... "A friendly, helpful staff" ... "Glad the library is open at night for working people." ... "The Potrero staff are ultra-friendly. The library usually has a good array of drama and literary fiction which I enjoy." ... "We're so glad the library is here on the Hill." "Good selection of magazines, newspapers." ... "I love the library." ... "This is an excellent library. The staff is always friendly and helpful."

### AND GETS SOME CONSTRUCTIVE CRITICISM...

"Put call numbers on non-fiction McNaughton [leased] books—it is hard to find [them]." ... "I tried to come earlier but you were closed." ... "I often find authors that I really like only to find that the selection by that author is very limited." ... "The staff is helpful but often I find the noise level too high to stay and read." ... "In general, I like the library, but you can never have too many books or videos." ... "There should be an area for people to talk that is closed off." ... "Please minimize the noise level!" ... "Location of books inaccurate in catalog — no call number, librarian found call number for me; also found the book." ... "Library should be open every day (except Sunday)."

### LOOKIN' GOOD, LOOKIN' GOOD

The children's room looks more colorful and inviting these days because of a donation of two sets of tables and chairs, a carpet, a reading chair and some beanbag chairs from Anchor Brewing. Thanks to Fritz Maytag and Phil Rogers for choosing the Potrero Library to receive this very welcome gift, and to Jerry who oversaw the selection, cutting and laying of the carpet. Phil agrees with us that in spite of our contentment with the new setup, there should be no move on our part to christen the spruced-up quarters, "The Brewski Room." We commend him on his sensibility.

### "READ AROUND THE CITY" SUMMER READING PROGRAM

This year's summer reading program, "Read Around the City," calculates readers' efforts differently than in past years. Readers through age 13 will log the hours they read or are read to, and prizes will be awarded based on hours spent reading instead of numbers of books read. Small prizes will be awarded to those who read eight or more hours. This year's Summer Reading club begins on June 14 and ends on August 9. Let us know how this works for the Summer Reader(s) you know!

### SUMMER READING KICKOFF

Ventriloquist Steve Chaney and his "dummy," Cornelius Crowe, will help kick off this year's summer reading club on Saturday, June 21, at 4 p.m.

### "TEENS AND THE LAW" PROGRAM

In her play, "Signs of Intelligent Life in the Universe," playwright Lily Tomlin observes that no matter how much contempt a teenager may show for society, society heaps even more contempt on the teenager. For those who are repelled by society's contempt, the Potrero Library has invited Public Defender Janet Forsythe, to conduct a workshop on "Teens and the Law," on Wednesday, June 25, at 2 p.m. Refreshments will be served.

### CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

Infant-Toddler Lapsits will take place on Thursdays, June 5, 19, and 26, at 10:30 a.m. Story Times have moved to Saturdays at 4 p.m., and will take place on June 7 and 28. There will be showings of the film, "Caps for Sale" on Tuesday, June 3, at 10 a.m., and Wednesday, June 4, at 7 p.m. There will be no children's programs the week of June 10-14.

### UN MIL GRACIAS

A thousand thanks to the gracious and talented team that organized the Potrero Hill Artists Exhibition in April. Headed by Marion Norberg and Bob Whaley, and supported by Jack Connolly, Bob Kingsbury, Sally Seymour and Bernice Wong, their efforts and those of The Friends of the San Francisco Public Library and staff here succeeded in attracting upwards of 200 to the opening night artists' reception—a record crowd.

And another thousand thanks to all of you who sent flora, cards, and other communiques during my recent interface with the scalpel. Vitamin C plus your ministrations are truly the prescription for post-op equilibrium!

### COMING ATTRACTIONS: BOOKS ON ORDER

\*Lawrence, Charles. "We Won't Go Back: Making the Case for Affirmative Action."

\*Cameron, Peter. "Andorra." Precise but unsettling study of loss and duplicity. Reads like Noel Coward, edited by Franz Kafka.

\*Lethem, Jonathan. "As She Climbed Across the Table." Lethem situates his fourth novel on a fictional Northern California campus, where a physicist accidentally opens a hole in space, a portal to an alternate universe. Engaging spoof on Academia.

\*Watson, Peter. "Capo." Watson gives Mario Puzo a run for his money with this stunning, authentic and historically accurate tale of the workings of the mob, set in 19th-century New Orleans.

\*Keller, Nora Okja. "Comfort Woman." Impressive first novel that depicts the atrocities of World War II, and its lingering effects on a later generation.

\*Arjouni, Jakob. "One Death to Die: a Kayankaya mystery." Pithy description marks this tour of legal fleshpots and low-down scams aimed at victimizing undocumented workers.

### COMING ATTRACTIONS: BOOKS ON ORDER FOR CHILDREN

\*Carle, Eric. "The Grouchy Ladybug."

\*Greenstein, Elaine. "Mrs. Rose's Garden."

\*Klinting, Lars. "Bruno the Carpenter."

\*Monroe, Judy. "Phobias: Everything You Wanted to Know but Were Afraid to Ask."

Toba Singer  
Branch Librarian

# TEN YEARS AGO

*In The View*

### HILL MURAL PARTY SCHEDULED:

Completion of Potrero Hill's first outdoor mural was to be celebrated with a block party at the site, 17th and Connecticut Streets, on June 13. Muralist Nicole Emanuel hoped that the party would "bring the two-dimensional surface of the mural to three-dimensional life." Emanuel's assistants on the work were Dnn Fontes and Scott Branham. The gala affair was also to feature musicians, dancers, actors "and other performing artists" from Potrero Hill.

### POTRERO POLICE STATION MOVE DISCUSSED:

The inadequacies of the 20th and Third St. site of the Potrero District police station had Capt. Frank Reed hoping for a move. Opposed to the idea was Greg Marcoulis of the American Industrial Center (the old can company), which leases space to more than 280 business tenants who, he feels, are more comfortable with a police presence across the street. Reed countered that the building is inadequate for the 60 male and 14 female officers in his station, has an antiquated heating system and is too far from the center of the district to respond to calls in a timely manner.

### SHOWPLACE, OTHER GROWTH QUESTIONED:

A proposal to develop 100,000 square feet of showrooms, retail spaces and offices at 17th and De Haro Streets spurred the concern of neighbors who feared the continued encroachment of business. Likewise, plans to construct a multiunit residential complex at the long-empty lot at Carolinn and Southern Heights had neighbors worried about the blockage of views and the density of the proposed development. Major controversy also greeted plans for a commercial-residential project at 23rd and Wisconsin Streets.

### FORMER NABE BOARD MEMBERS AT REUNION

Fourteen former members of the Board of Directors of the Potrero Hill Neighborhood House gathered to reminisce as part of the Nabe's year-long celebration of its 80th year of service to the community. Other activities planned for the commemoration included a "School's Out" party, a reunion of people involved with the Olivet Church, a gospel singers concert and a jazz concert. A current Nabe board member described a feeling echoed by others: "It's not just something to do once a month. It's part of my life."

### THIS AND THAT:

Following a Career Day at the Potrero Hill Middle School, when asked if their answers to the question "What do you want to be when you grow up?" had changed, sixth grader Guy Kullman said he "kind of felt like being a movie star" after hearing actor Danny Glover speak . . . Among the Potrero Hillers spotted on the Golden Gate Bridge on the span's 50th anniversary festivities were Kayren Hudiburgh, Robert Flynn (a veteran of the 1937 bridge walk), three generations of the Schindler family, Karen Larsen, Ray Cicerone, Jr., Maya Charbonneau, Evie Renshaw, Steve and Carmela Parun, Luis, Hisako and Daniel Vargas, Richard Reinacci and yours truly with my late wife Arden . . . Asbestos cleanup at the Middle School was scheduled to begin as soon as school closed for the summer . . . The **View** endorsed the candidacy of Nancy Pelosi for the Fifth Congressional District, to succeed the late Sala Burton . . . The Potrero Branch Library and the Julian Theatre were joining to present "An Evening of Potrero Hill Authors Reading from Their Works" . . . Then-Assemblyman Art Agnos, a Hill resident, testified before the State Senate opposing a bill that would set back an effort to protect small businesses against sudden rent increases . . . "Jazz is alive and well hereabouts," the **View** noted, with Goat Hill Pizza featuring the likes of Harold Bradford and Burt Bales, a trio at Sally's during Sunday Brunch and Pete Escovedo at The Ramp at China Basin.

### AND 20 YEARS AGO:

Hill residents prepared to fight then-Supervisor Dianne Feinstein's plan to limit "bookstores, encounter parlors and theaters dealing with sexually explicit materials" to "the industrial area below Potrero Hill and southward to Hunters Point and the Bayview districts."

— Vas Amautoff



## Potrero Hill Neighborhood House

953 De Haro Street, San Francisco, California 94107

(415) 826-8080

Enola D. Maxwell, Executive Director

### ON-GOING MEETINGS:

Al-Anon	Thursdays, 6:30 pm
Alcoholics Anonymous	Sun, 8:00 pm/Mon & Thurs, 8:30 pm
Girls/Boys Club	Mondays, 4:00 pm
Narcotics Anonymous	Wednesdays, 8:00 pm
Omega Boys Club	Tuesdays, 7:30 pm

### FACILITIES:

Auditorium for theatre presentations, lectures, weddings, workshops and receptions  
Bulletin board with employment and event listings  
Gymnasium and recreational space  
Meeting spaces available for use by community groups  
Mini-park

### ACTIVITIES & SERVICES:

- After School/Summer Youth Activities
- Arts and Crafts
- Food Distribution
- Gang Prevention
- Girls/Boys Club
- Graffiti Paint Out
- Juvenile Probation
- Home Supervision

### Peer Counseling

- MET Theatre Ensemble
- Senior Nutrition Program
- Social Development Center
- Tutoring Program
- Youth Employment
- MYEEP/SYETP
- Job Readiness
- ZAP Project (substance abuse day treatment for adolescents)

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# Troubles at Club Touche Force Permit Revocation

By Carol Peterson

Police revoked the entertainment permit of Le Club Touche May 7 at a hearing that was well attended by community representatives, reported Captain Sylvia Harper of the Bayview Station.

Instrumental in the revocation was the testimony of witnesses who were injured in incidents found to be linked to Le Club Touche patrons.

Neither the nightclub owner nor the building owner was present at the hearing, although the Club manager, Lance Jo, and several bartenders were in attendance. Testimony in favor of the club was given only by a security guard who is employed by Club Touche and the neighboring Metronome dance club. The building owner's attorney also noted that the owner is suing for back rent owed by permit holder Asia Khan. The owner, Barbara Klein, intends to initiate eviction proceedings if the back rent is not paid in the near future.

The club was recently used by the Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation

(GLAAD) for a group viewing of the "coming-out" episode of the ABC sitcom "Ellen," and has been offered to the gay community free of charge on Thursday nights, as a positive gesture. This effort, however, was overshadowed by the testimony of two witnesses against the operation, one of whom is still crippled by injuries inflicted by persons alleged to be Club Touche patrons.

The permit revocation was granted "upon review of the finding of facts and the recommendation of the hearing officer, "and includes suspension of the entertainment permit, the cabaret license, the after-hours license, and the dancehall keeper's license. These licenses are to be suspended for 30, 60 and 90 days, to be served consecutively, for a total of 180 days.

The attorney for the nightclub, however, intends to "carry this one to the end," and will appeal the revocation.

Captain Harper added that the Police Department is still considering a lawsuit against the builder owner for creating a public nuisance.

# "Nick" Stolla, Hill Gardener, Dies

Enoch "Nick" Joseph Stolla died quietly in the early morning hours of April 9 at San Francisco General Hospital. Nick leaves behind two brothers, one sister, a large extended family, and a bouquet of eclectic (and sometimes eccentric) close and dear friends -- many of whom reside on Potrero Hill.

His ashes have been spread across the bay of the city he loved and lived in for over 40 years. Nick had a relish for opera, was highly versed in the arts, and travelled abroad, often residing for years at a time in small villages and islands around the Mediterranean. He graduated from the University of Utah with a BA in Library Sciences, and received a Masters from the University of California, Berkeley. He served in the Navy, and worked at the Rudolf Schaeffer School of Design in Potrero Hill for many years.

Nick will be fondly remembered for his cultivation of and devotion to many wonderful gardens in and around Potrero. "The Earth laughs in flowers," Emerson.

- Carol Tervo



Carol Tervo



## THEATER WORKSHOP SET AT NABE

The Potrero Hill Neighborhood House announces a new Dramatic Workshop for youngsters beginning in June. Children ages six to 11, and those from 12 on up will be taught in weekday classes in a six week course, culminating in a presentation in July.

Teaching the workshops will be Lonnie Ford, (formerly with the S.F. Mime Troupe), and Phillip Walker, (formerly Director of the Theatre Dept. at Fisk University). Both are members of the African American Drama company of California.

For registration and information, call the Neighborhood House at 826-8080.



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### MUNI Tix at Nabe

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# Public Housing Activists Now in Trainee Posts

(Continued from Page 1)

Armstrong and Nichols said that with increased police involvement it becomes a two-way street, in which the police have protection too. Residents who begin to trust the authorities will be more likely to report incidents to them, because they care about and desire to preserve the safety and quiet enjoyment of their communities.

Armstrong was quick to emphasize that the developments should not be referred to as "projects," adding that "a project is something you are working on until it is finished. There's a stigma that goes with that — it's been a common word." She believes public housing is "simply a stepping stone, not a life-long crutch."

Currently acceptance into public housing is based upon income qualification, then waiting for an available unit. However, Nichols maintains, they do not

want it that way any longer. "We want to pick the best residents that we want to live here, who we feel are going to help in our community. We want Potrero Hill Apartments to be a decent, clean and safe environment to live in."

Armstrong and Nichols highly regard Davis, crediting him, in conjunction with Mayor Willie Brown, with more changes in the past six months than in any of the previous Housing Authority administrations. Armstrong exclaimed, "I feel like he is Moses, we are in Egypt, and he has come to set us free!"

Regarding betterment as a community effort, Armstrong proudly declared, "We want to teach the importance of education along with the other things we are doing — the training, the caring about your children, the education — these are our goals. When you have self-respect, nobody is going to disrespect you."



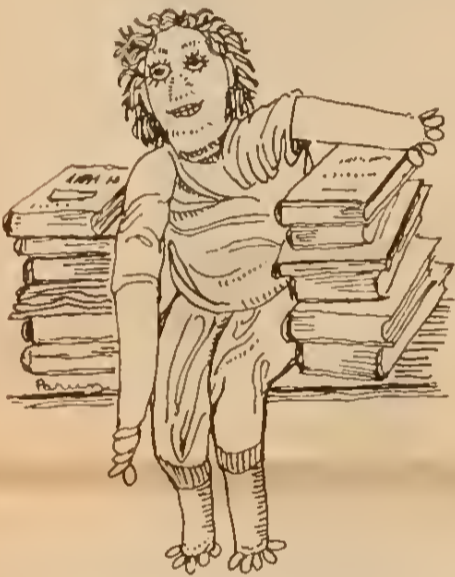
Potrero Hill public housing resident and activist Joyce Armstrong (second from left) works hard during one of the many graffiti paint-outs she has organized in the Potrero public housing developments in recent years.  
Ruth Passen photo

## July 4 BBQ Slated at 'Yank To Benefit Nabe

For the past two years owners of the Connecticut Yankee have hosted a July 4 BBQ with proceeds donated to the Potrero Hill Neighborhood House (NABE). This year's Third Annual July 4 Celebration begins at 3 p.m., with an old-fashioned barbecue, and celebrity bartenders — whose services are donated for the event — Food provided by the Yankee will cost revelers a donation of any size that will go directly to the NABE.

Celebrating its 90th year of existence, the Nabe continues to provide services to Hill residents of all ages. In addition to daily programs, the facility is available for recreational activities, meetings and social events.

The Connecticut Yankee is located at 100 Connecticut St. at 17th. For more information, or to make donations, contact Jim or Fritz at (415) 552-4440.



## School Water Fountains Turned off — Lead Hazard

By Carol Peterson

Immediate steps were taken recently to shut off water fountains at Daniel Webster Elementary School after water from one of the classroom fixtures was found to contain lead levels above the government's maximum standard for drinking water.

David Wong, the Principal of the Missouri Street school, told the *View* that bottled water has been substituted for the drinking fountain supply until the problem can be permanently solved.

The Dept. of Public Health (DPH) conducted a random sampling of the city's school district water supply and found that, among other locations throughout the district, one fountain at Daniel Webster did not meet government standards. This problem is attributed to the use of lead solder in the existing plumbing.

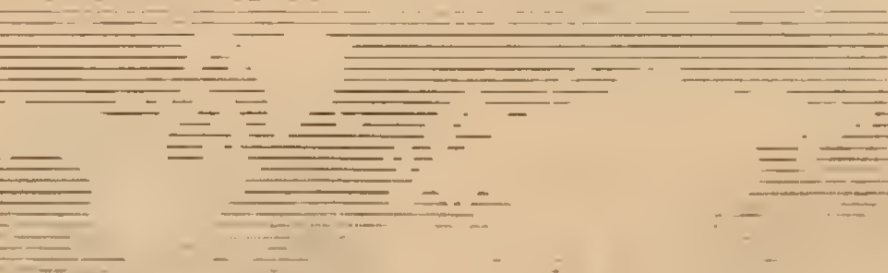
Michael Mack, a member of the Citizen's Advisory Committee for Childhood Lead Prevention, explained that the problem with the plumbing has been known for some time. In the past, Mack had advised the School Board to install a corrosion control device in the system. However, because of cost factors, this was rejected in favor of a daily flushing regimen.

The DPH has now advised that stronger measures must be taken to ensure that lead levels are kept below government maximums. They have recommended that the flushing regimen be doubled and the current system be replaced with lead-free fixtures. It should also be noted that none of the 459 cases of lead poisoning reported in San Francisco last year was found to be caused by contaminated water, but rather from high lead levels in soil or lead-based paint found in many older homes throughout the city.



by Michael Ferrar

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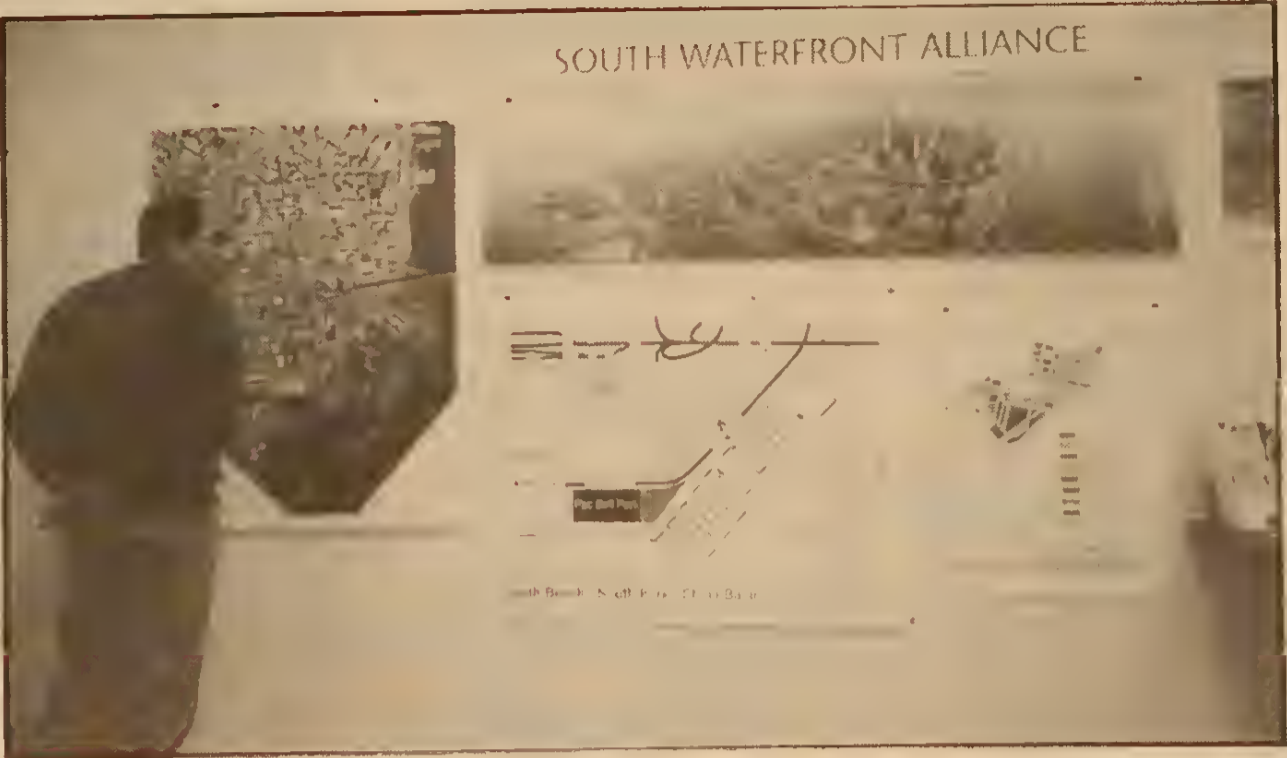
# A Look at Some Local Development Proposals

An event to bring representatives of various development projects together with each other and the general public May 9 and 10 was considered a success by the event's organizer, the South of Market Cultural Center (SOMAR). More than 300 people attended the two-day exhibit, which was held at SOMAR's gallery at 934 Brannan St.

The exhibit was the brainchild of SOMAR Executive Director Jack Davis whose goal in hosting the event was to "foster communication and provide a forum for education in an informal setting."

Representatives from projects in development (which included Muni, Cal-Trans, Catellus Corporation, the S.F. Giants, Mission Bay North and South, the Transbay Study, the Third Street Light Rail, and U.C.S.F.) have requested that another event of the same sort be arranged in the near future.

—C.P.



Photos by Ruth Passen

WritersCorps will celebrate the publication of its 1997 anthology of student writings. "Curves on a Sidewalk Street," at a reading by young writers to be held at the Main Library in the Koret Auditorium, 100 Larkin St., Wednesday, June 4, 5:15-7:30 p.m. The event is free and open to the public. For more info contact WritersCorps, 252-4655.

Men and women 70 years and older are needed for research to study movements during sitting. Subjects will receive \$10/hr for 3-4 hrs. Call James Chiu or Barbara Jordan at UCSF/SFGH Biomechanics Lab. (415) 206-6865.

The S.F. Bicycle Coalition's annual bike tour of the city's community gardens takes place Saturday, June 7, at Dolores Park (18th & Dolores), near the tennis courts. The event runs in conjunction with Open Garden Day and takes place from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Event coordinators suggest that riders bring water and a lunch (or cash to buy homegrown fare). Free to SFBC member. \$5-\$10 sliding scale for non-members. Co-sponsored by the S.F. League of Urban Gardeners (SLUG). Call (415) 431-BIKE for more info.

The Senior Central/Center announces that a satellite office to serve Potrero Hill seniors will be opening soon at the S.F. General Hospital. Services offered will include information and referrals for a variety of needs. Volunteers are needed to staff the office. For info please call 777-3233, 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.



Happy Birthday . . .

**HAPPY JUNE BIRTHDAY:** Matthew Barclift, Judy Baston, Megan Bierman, Cecily Byrne, Chuck Cannon, Florent De Serpos, Madeline Eastman, June Finis, Alex Goldhammer, Gilles Hauser, Marilyn Koopman Rowe, Barbara Lane, Rachel Lovett, Frances Millhauser, James Nye, Bruce Nye, Ruth Passen, Rita Rector, Chuck Rosenblatt, Jack Rose, Jason Rowe, Fred Silverman, Elly Simmons, Gloria Unti-Sarvis, Dick Werthimer, Harriet Ziskin



San Franciscans with AIDS often cannot visit a library, but the library can visit them, thanks to volunteers who carry books and tapes to the homebound in the "Friends for Life" program. Volunteers are needed to continue to provide this free service. Training takes place on three Wednesday evenings beginning late June at the Main Library. Contact Paul Signorelli at 557-4280 before June 11.

In conjunction with the Galerie de la Raza exhibition "Home Grown: The Fields of Califas," Galeria de la Raza and Cine Accion present an evening of videos about life in the fields of Califas, Friday, June 6 at the Artists' Television Access, 992 Valencia St. The program includes Roberto Navarro's "Regardor," Alex Rivera's "Cybrucero," and Andanda Esteve's "Mass Migra." The showing begins at 8 p.m., and door admission is \$5.

Bindlestiff Productions presents "Memento Mori," a new show by award-winning puppeteer Chrystene R. Ellis, which combines an all new cast of eight twisted puppets, a suicidal clown tango, blood and accordions in a dark comedy set in the back room of a dead-end carnival. An original musical score and dances created by Canadian choreographer Murray Marshall, enhances the show, which runs June 12 through July 5, Thursdays through Saturdays, 8 p.m. at 185 Sixth St. (at Howard). Tickets are \$10, and \$5 for students. Call 974-1167.

A celebration for Fr. Peter Sammon's 50 years of service in the Catholic Church takes place June 8 at the Irish Cultural Center, 2700-45th Ave. For more information call St. Teresa's Church, 285-5272. Congratulations to you Fr. Sammon!!!!

Clients at a women's clinic in San Francisco are being harassed every Saturday morning by anti-choice groups. Volunteers are needed to support ongoing community defense of the abortion clinic. Training is provided each Saturday at 7:15 a.m. at the Pregnancy Consultation Clinic, 1801 Bush St. For more info, call 789-8165.

The San Francisco Dept. of Public Health announced the launch of a special awareness campaign to encourage low-income pregnant women to enroll in free or low-cost prenatal care. Women are encouraged to sign up for prenatal care as soon as they think they are pregnant. Any low-income pregnant woman currently living in San Francisco may be eligible for free or low-cost care. To find out more about prenatal care, call 1-800-300-9950, Mon - Fri, from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Assistance is available in English, Spanish, Mandarin and Cantonese. Individuals may also call this number at any time, leave a message, and a staff member will return the call during business hours. This campaign was created by the San Francisco Dept. of Public Health through a grant from the California Dept. of Health Services.

The S.F. Jazz Festival offers a summer listing of events free to the public and located throughout the city: June 6-Sept. 12, from noon-1 p.m. at Trans-american Redwood Park, 600 Montgomery St.; Summer Jazz at Ghirardelli Square, West Plaza Area, (bet. Beach & North Point Sts./Larkin & Polk Sts.), Fridays, July 11-Aug. 29, 6-7:30 p.m.; and Levi's Park Plaza Music Series, (bet. Battery & Bay Sts.) off the Embarcadero, Wednesdays, Aug. 20-Sept. 24, noon-1:30 p.m.

If you are a woman who has been hurt by a female partner, and need help and support — it is available at W.O.M.A.N., Inc. (Women Organized to Make Abuse Nonexistent) by calling Carol at (415) 864-4777. There is a 24 hour crisis line, and Spanish speaking services are also available.

A panel on Welfare reform and jobs will take place at the Potrero Hill Neighborhood House, 953 De Haro St., June 21, from 1-3 p.m. The event, organized by the Gray Panthers and Womens' League for Peace and Freedom, as well as the Neighborhood House, is free and everyone is welcome. There will be entertainment and refreshments. Call 567-5348 for more info.

The blind and those with low vision are invited to UCSF to attend a special forum to discuss low vision devices used to measure vision distortion. Saturday, June 7, in the main foyer of the UCSF Ambulatory Care Center, 400 Parnassus Ave. The program is from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Call 626-5313 for more info.

Free workshops for family members, relatives and friends taking care of persons living with HIV/AIDS will be offered at the Center for African American Arts and Culture June 9-13. This series, sponsored by Home Care Companions and supported by Levi Strauss and the City and County of San Francisco Ryan White CARE, is an intensive training program with an emphasis on practical problem-solving and network building. The Center is located at 762 Fulton St. Registration is requested as class size is limited. For info or to register call Celi Adams, RN or Mark Faulkner at 824-3269.

The S.F. Free Folk Festival holds its annual event June 21-22, at the Roosevelt Middle School, 460 Arguello St. in the city. This event features concerts, workshops, dances, children's activities, food, fun and much more, from noon to 11 p.m. on June 21, and on June 22 from noon-10 p.m. Featured in the line-up are: Utah Phillips, with U. Utah Phillips and the Rose Tatoes; Golden Bough; the Jazzy Jewish dance music of "Ellis Island"; Celtic Elvis; and women's group Rebecca Piots. For a complete schedule of concerts, activities and workshops, call (510) 521-8764.

The Arab Film Festival of San Francisco presents programs that showcase films from Algeria, Tunisia, Palestine, Syria, and Egypt, June 21-22, 28-29, at the Roxie Theater and the Ft. Mason Cowell Theater in S.F. This inaugural 1997 Festival is sponsored by the Arab Women's Solidarity Assn., a non-profit, non-governmental organization dedicated to building bridges between Arab and non-Arab communities. For more info, contact Jumana Muwafi, 563-9334.



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# Staying Active With Arthritis -Physical Activity, Education

Exercise means more than just keeping fit for the nearly 40 million Americans affected by arthritis -- it means taking charge of their condition, according to the Arthritis Foundation.

The Arthritis Foundation is encouraging people to "Stay Active with Arthritis through Physical Activity and Education" -- the current theme of its national campaign.

"According to the Surgeon General's Report on Physical Activity and Health, regular and moderate physical activity can benefit people by decreasing fatigue, building stronger muscles and bones, increasing energy, flexibility and stamina, and improving general health and the sense of well-being," said Doyt Conn, MD, senior vice-president of medical affairs for the Arthritis Foundation. "After two to three months of exercising, most people also report less pain, anxiety and depression."

The Arthritis Foundation offers these exercise tips to help you "Stay Active with Arthritis."

- \* Choose exercises you want to do -- combine activities your doctor or other health professional recommends with some of your favorite exercises;
- \* Choose a specific time and place to exercise -- keep this consistent;
- \* Start your program gradually -- especially if you haven't exercised in a while;
- \* Ask a family member or friend to

support your decision to take charge of arthritis.

The Arthritis Foundation encourages people with arthritis to work with their doctor and other members of their health-care team to develop an exercise program. "It's also important to keep your health-care team informed about your progress," said Conn.

In addition to "Staying Active with Arthritis," the Arthritis Foundation recommends the following steps:

- \* Control your weight -- Staying close to your recommended weight can help reduce stress on weight-bearing joints such as knees and hips. Studies show that overweight people who lose weight can reduce their risk of knee osteoarthritis by up to 50 percent.
- \* Protect your joints -- Use your joints in ways that avoid excessive stress and make it easier to do daily tasks, either through appropriate body mechanics or use of inexpensive devices that make tasks easier.
- \* Save your energy -- Balance periods of activity with periods of rest to help reduce fatigue and to protect joints from the stress of repeated tasks.

For more information about "Staying Active with Arthritis," including a free exercise brochure, or for information about the Arthritis Foundation's many programs and services, contact the Arthritis Foundation, Northern California Chapter at (415) 673-6882 or (800) 464-6240.

## HILL AUTHOR'S READINGS



Two Potrero Hill events Friday, June 6 will celebrate the publication of neighborhood resident Peter Delacorte's third novel, "Time on My Hands," about a man who journeys to the past to try to prevent Ronald Reagan from becoming President of the United States of America. The events take place from 6-9 p.m. at Farley's, 1315-18th St., and Christopher's Books, 1400-18th St. Delacorte is shown with his cousin Judy Stone -- also a Hill resident and writer -- who is holding the Japanese edition of Delacorte's novel, "Levantine." Ruth Gilbert photo



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## Hill Filmmaker's Work Set For Gay, Lesbian Festival

Potrero Hill filmmaker Daven Gee's "soil, toil & fleece," a portrait of his father and the sheep ranch where the filmmaker grew up, will be screened Saturday, June 21 at 3 p.m. at the Roxie Cinema, 3117-16th St. as part of the San Francisco International Lesbian and Gay Film Festival.

The film is based on a series of poems that Gee wrote and, he notes, it "aims to capture how time and hard work have aged my father and the farm . . . a rugged and fragile place, particularly at the time of filming, as my father prepared to sell the last of the flock."

Gee, whose studio is located on Minnesota Street, has hand-processed all the

original footage, buried it in chemicals and dirt and exposed it to the sun, wind and rain to capture the colors and textures of farm life and its cycles.

This work is Gee's second completed film. He grew up on a sheep farm in Northern California before moving to San Francisco to pursue a graduate degree in film at San Francisco State University, a short about chemistry.

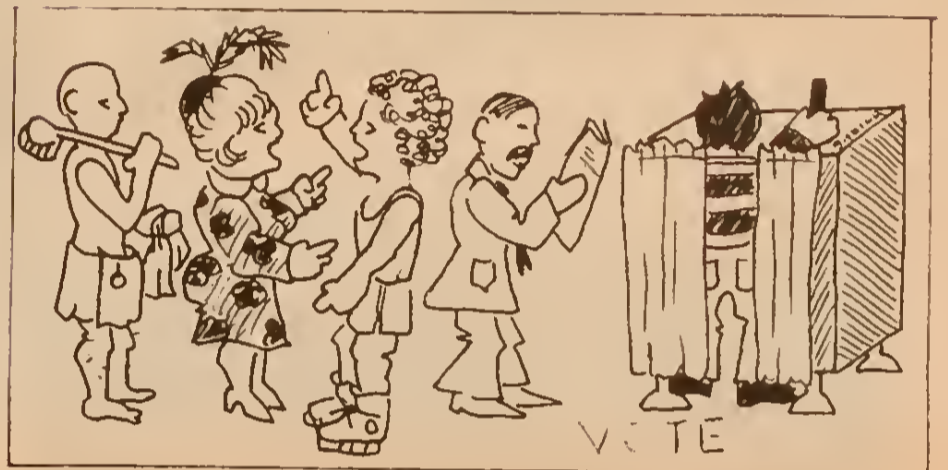
This year's Lesbian and Gay Film Festival runs from June 20-29 and will be held at the Castro Theatre, Victory Theatre and Roxie Cinema. Tickets may be purchased at the new Festival Ticket Outlet, at 2193 Market St. (at Sanchez and 15th Sts. For up-to-date information on showings call 703-8663.



Hill filmmaker Daven Gee's father, subject of "soil, toil & fleece."



A young child cleans up her neighborhood in a scene from "Block by Block," slated to be shown on KQED-Channel 9 on June 6. Carrie Kenny photo.



## KQED Program Highlights Inner-City Revitalization

In many San Francisco and Oakland neighborhoods, non-profit community groups formed by churches, civic associations and ordinary residents, working in partnerships with government and the private sector, are successfully combating urban decay — making streets safer, providing affordable housing, investing in commercial enterprises, training their workforce, providing childcare and other activities.

For 30 years, this unnoticed movement has been taking hold in city after city. Now, these stories are part of the national public television special, "Building Community in America's Inner Cities - Block by Block."

This one hour special, narrated by James Earl Jones, will air in the Bay Area on the public television station

KQED-9 on Friday, June 6 at 9 p.m.

"In hundreds of neighborhoods across the country there are exciting jewels of activity — residents working with community-based organizations who are struggling against what seems like insurmountable odds to change the face of their communities. The dedication, the passion and commitment of these people is extraordinary," says Executive Producer Virginia Wolf. "They are succeeding where the others have failed. These are the stories that need to serve as seeds for the rebirth of our nation's cities."

Much of the filming for this program was done in the Bay Area. A local group, Asian Neighborhood Design, (AND) which has a workshop on Potrero Hill, is highlighted in "Block by Block."

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# Esprit Park Land, Trees: Fundraising "Sale" Set

(Continued from Page 1)

Since the park was declared "surplus" property by its owners, the Esprit Corp., last year, the Friends, now numbering more than 1000, have garnered strong support from the community and public officials starting with a Priority 1 status for acquisition by the San Francisco Recreation and Park Department's Citizens Advisory Committee.

In addition, State Senate and Assembly budget requests for \$500,000 each have been made by Senator John Burton and Assemblywoman Carol Migden. Also a financial commitment of \$300,000 was made by the City's Rec and Park Dept. towards acquisition of the park. Cost of acquisition is between the city's valuation of \$1.6 million and the owner's current asking price of \$4 million, with a precise figure not yet established.

In other developments, a City Resolution by Supervisor Sue Bierman support-

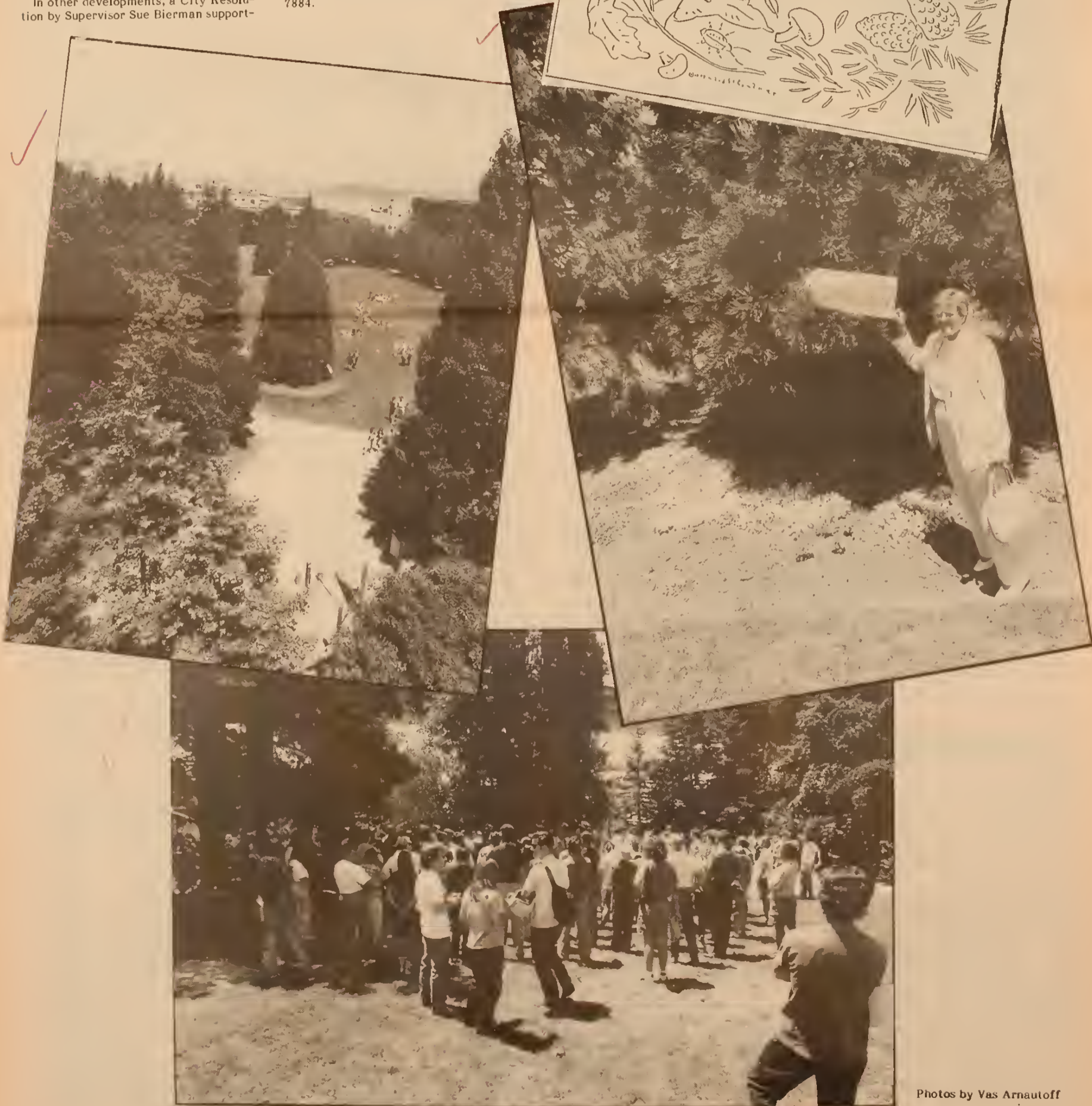
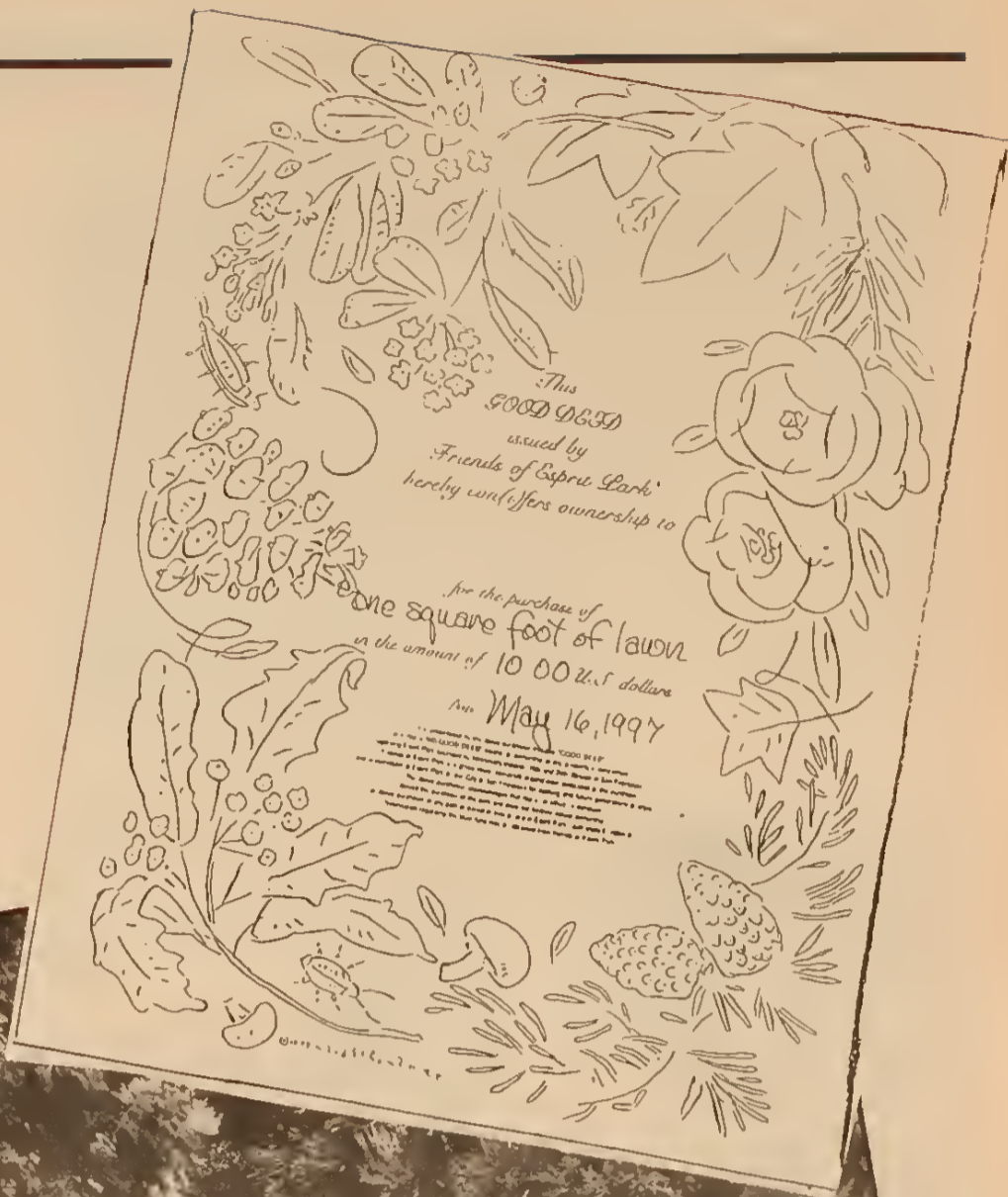
ing the acquisition of the park was co-sponsored by the entire Board of Supervisors and signed by the mayor on April 1.

In addition, Esprit Park has been added to the City's Open Space Master Plan by the San Francisco Planning Department, and the Trust for Public Land is working with the Friends to negotiate interim site protection with the current owners of the park.

In appreciation of their efforts in behalf of the park, Mayor Willie Brown, Senator Burton, Assemblywoman Migden and Supervisor Bierman were honored May 16 at the site and presented with signed posters.

Esprit Park, created in 1982, covers the square block bounded by Minnesota, Indiana, 19th and 20th Streets and was designed by Andrew Detsch, ASLA.

Friends of Esprit Park can be reached at 970 Tennessee St., Phone (415) 641-7884.



Photos by Vas Arnautoff

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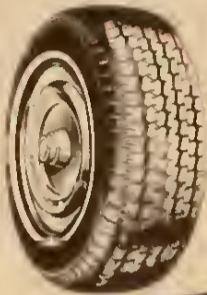
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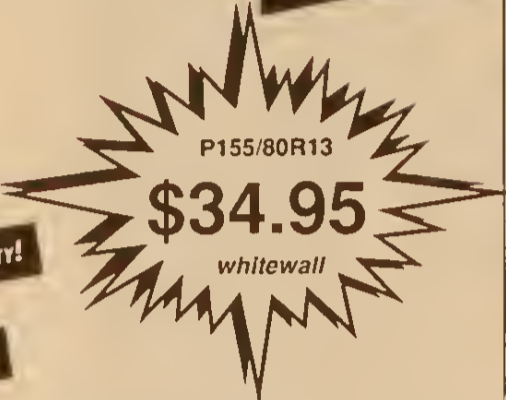
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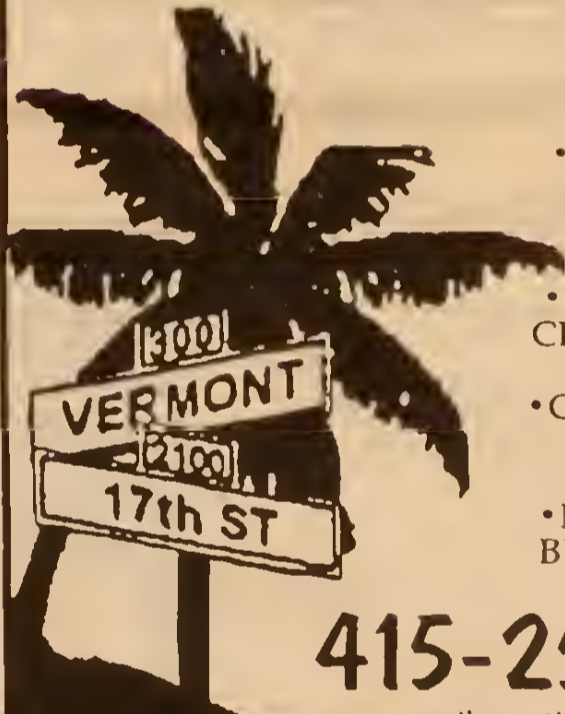
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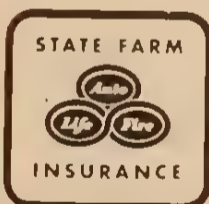
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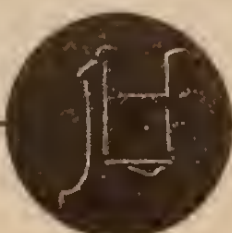
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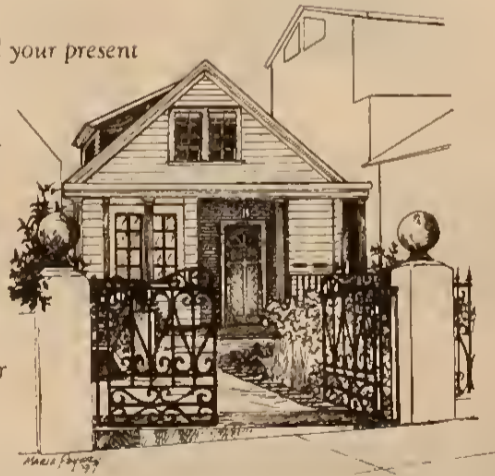


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**HANDY JIM:** Carpentry, painting, plumbing, electrical, masonry, hauling. Jim Kennedy, 661-3724.

**DECORATOR/ARTIST/PAINTER (FROM PARIS):** Patine, faux marble, wood, furniture, walls, etc. Trompe L'Oeil, etc. Cnicky, 387-6275.

**POR RENT POR ONE YEAR:** August 1, 1997 - August 1, 1998 - Potrero Hill house, 2 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath, views, sun, huge garden, dishwasher, washer/dryer. Best for couples, gardeners preferred, no pets, non smokers. Furnishing negotiable. \$1,700. 647-6268.

**MULTI-FAMILY YARD SALE:** Saturday, June 28, 9 a.m. - ?/ 20th at San Bruno. Stuff, collectibles and more!!

**POTRERO HILL LOCKSMITH** - Licensed and bonded. Reasonable rates. Call 285-0948.

**TOM THE FIX-IT MAN:** Home repair. Walls, floors, ceilings, doors, windows, wires, gardens, etc. 864-7932.

**GOURMET VEGETARIAN CUISINE** delivered to your doorstep. Diverse menus, naturally low in fat, cholesterol & salt. Treat yrself right! Gift cert. avail. For mo. menu call Jane, 826-2133.

**GINO'S WAX JOBS AND LIGHT OXIDATION REMOVAL.** Reliable/Sunday service. 289-6968.

**DEPTH PSYCHOTHERAPY:** Heal old wounds, past trauma and abuse. Explore and work thorough stuck places, fears and anxiety that keep you from having the relationships and life that you want. Peggy Handler, MFCC #MFC32077, (415) 695-0166. Noe Valley.

**DO YOU NEED HOUSECLEANING?** I'll do it! Call Marco at (415) 285-4067. References available. \$10 per hour.

**ALL THINGS MACINTOSH:** 510/526-1209, Take control of business & finances. Quicken \* Go Online \* System errors \*. Projects/Training \* References \* Roslyn

**SENIORS (60+) DON'T EAT ALONE! JOIN US FOR DAILY LUNCH AND ADD TO YOUR SOCIAL LIFE:** Learn dances Fridays before lunch. Mon-Fri, hot nutritious meals - your first time with us you get a free lunch! Bingo: Mon/Wed/Fri. Transp. avail to/from meal site at Potrero Hill Neighborhood House, 953 De Haro St. For more information call 826-8080, ask for Alicia S. Soberano.

**Annie's Homegrown**  
**Macaroni & Cheese**  
 Shells & Cheddar, Alfredo With Basil, & Mild Mexican  
 7.25 oz. -reg \$ 1.49

**Barbaras Bakery**  
**Cheese Puffs & Cheese Puff Bakes**  
 7oz. -reg \$ 1.99

**Santa Cruz Organics**  
**Plain Apple Sauce**  
 22oz. -reg \$2.99

**99¢**

**\$ 1.99**

**\$ 1.49**

sale prices effective June 1 - June 16, 1997

**The GOOD LIFE GROCERY**

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 MON-SAT 9 AM-7 30 PM • SUNDAY 10 AM-6 PM